been deferred by the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee, as the proposal was incomplete.

Attracting foreign tourists to visit Rajasthan, Goa and Kerala

3333. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to attract more foreign tourists to our country particularly for visiting States like Rajasthan, Goa and Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is aware that the number of local tourists has gone down to 10 per cent of the normal traffic in these months and if so, what remedial measures Government is planning to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to attract more foreign tourists to India the Government has taken the following steps:

- Promotion of ethnic traffic like PIOs, NRIs specially from USA, Canada, South Africa and Mauritius.
- Promotion of tourist charters.
- Organising Fam tours for Travel Agents/Tour Operators/TV Teams/ Travel Writers/Decision and Opinion Makers for projecting India's positive image.
- Use of information technology for promotion of tourism; Website, Kiosks, CD's Rom Etc.
- Promotion of cultural, heritage, health and religious tourism.
- Participation in tourism exhibitions like WTM, ITB, EIBTM, BIT, FITUR etc.
- Promotion of incentive, conference and convention tourism.
- Holding of PATA 2002 in India.

(c) There was an estimated growth of 10% in the local tourists in the year 2000 over 1999.